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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am personally thankful the Microsoft antitrust case has come to a satisfactory end. Microsoft has achieved an enviable position in the software industry based on quality products that have dramatically improved the quality and accessibility of modern computer technology to the public. I believe the antitrust case was fueled by parties resentful of Microsoft's success in the market. With little to offer in the way of innovation these parties sought to use the judicial force of the US government to achieve what they could not achieve through the free-market economy. As an employee in the U.S. biotechnology industry I look upon the legal precedents set in other high tech industries as a model for potential biotech industry regulations. For the US to maintain its strength in technology three requirements must be met: 1. Protection of intellectual property 2. A free market economy 3. A supportive rather than antagonistic federal government. I believe the settlement in the Microsoft case is fair and reasonable. Had the ruling been otherwise I fear that each of these requirements would be forever compromised and we would be witnessing the beginning of the decline in US technology leadership.